REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 9-11 and 13-18 are pending. Claims 1, 4, 8, 9 and 11 have been amended. Claims 6, 7 and 12 have been cancelled. New claims 17 and 18 have been added. Claims 1, 11, 17 and 18 are independent.

The specification was objected to due to certain informalities. By this Amendment, the specification has been amended to attend to the certain informalities, and withdrawal of the objections to the specification is requested.

Claim 4 stands objected to due to certain informalities. By this Amendment, claim 4 has been amended to attend to the certain informalities, and withdrawal of the objection to claim 4 is requested.

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for antecedent issues. By this Amendment, claim 9 has been amended to attend to the antecedent issues, and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is requested.

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0233583 (Carley).

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended recite, inter alia, "wherein monitoring each of the network components comprises periodically sampling the network configuration of each of the network components by the system monitor, and comparing the

sampled network configurations to stored network configurations at the network management

system." Support for this amendment can be found in the present application as published at, for

example, paragraphs [0021] to [0023] wherein it is recited:

> [0021] In one exemplary embodiment, console "screen scraping"
> and terminal scripting through programs (e.g., "GNU Expect")
> **may be used to automatically configure network devices by
> network management system 130**. Configuration management for
> all devices managed by network management system 130 provides
> many advantages. **For example, all versions of the configuration
> of each network device are stored in configuration
> management 204 on network management system 130 so that
> configurations may be staged prior to deployment on the
> managed network.** Further, devices on the managed network may
> be rolled back to any previous configuration by the management
> network on request of authorized administrators. **Devices on the
> managed network may periodically have their configurations
> checked against the master copy in the configuration
> management system by the management network to detect
> errors, unauthorized reconfiguration or hacking.**

> [0022] **Using periodic sampling of network device
> configuration to checks the configuration of all network
> devices against the configuration management database 204
> permits network management system 130 to check for
> tampering or unauthorized changes.** Further, the network
> management system can monitor and control itself. Periodic
> sampling of network devices provides console log information 206
> and central recording of that information.

> [0023] In this manner, network management systems 130 can
> automatically check collected console logs to detect hacking
> activity. This exemplary embodiment also provides automatic
> management of the console port of managed network devices to
> switch between console logging and device configuration.

(emphasis added).

Applicants submit that Carley does not recite these limitations of amended claim 1

wherein "monitoring each of the network components comprises periodically sampling the

network configuration of each of the network components by the system monitor, and comparing the sampled network configurations to stored network configurations at the network management system." Accordingly, applicants submit that claim 1 is in patentable form, and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 1 is requested.

Claims 2-5 each ultimately depend from claim 1, and are therefore patentable over Carley for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-5 are in condition for allowance and request withdrawal of the rejections to those claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

Claims 6-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being as being unpatenable over a combination of Carley and U.S. Patent No. 6,539,027 (Cambron). Applicants submit that, for a rejection to be proper under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the prior art references when combined must teach or suggest all the claim limitations (MPEP 706.02(j)).

Claims 6-8 have been cancelled, thus rendering moot the rejections to those claims.

Claims 9 and 10 each ultimately depend from claim 1 and are therefore not taught or suggested by Carley for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claim 1. Cambron does not cure the deficiencies of Carley. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 9 and 10 are in condition for allowance and request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) to those claims.

Amended independent claim 11, while differing in form and scope from claim 1, includes limitations similar to those of claim 1, and accordingly, claim 11 is not taught or suggested by Carley for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claim 1. Cambron

does not cure the deficiencies of Carley. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claim 11 is in condition for allowance and request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) to that claim.

Claim 12 has been cancelled, thus rendering moot the rejection to that claim.

Claims 13-16 each ultimately depend from claim 11 and are therefore not taught or suggested by Carley for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claim 11. Cambron does not cure the deficiencies of Carley. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 13-16 are in condition for allowance and request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) to those claims.

New claim 17 recites a method for securely managing and monitoring a data network wherein "managing each of said network components comprises deploying network configuration of each of the network components from stored network configurations at the network management system." New claim 18 recites a method for securely managing and monitoring a data network wherein "wherein monitoring each of said network components comprises periodically sampling the network configuration of each of the network components by the system monitor, and comparing the sampled network configurations to stored network configurations at the network management system; and wherein managing each of said network components comprises deploying a network configuration of each of the network components from stored network configurations at the network management system." Support for these amendments can be found in the present application as published at, for example, paragraphs [0021] to [0023], which are listed above.

Applicants submit that new claims 17 and 18 are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the currently-pending claims are in condition for allowance and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: ___30 August 2007___   ___/ James Dobrow /___
                                    By: James Dobrow
                                    Attorney for Applicant
                                    Registration No. 46,666

Mail all correspondence to:

Docket Administrator
Lowenstein Sandler PC
65 Livingston Avenue
Roseland, NJ 07068
Phone: (973) 597-2500